



IFW

PATENT
Customer No. 22,852
Attorney Docket No. 04329.3256

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:)
)
HIROYUKI OKA ET AL.) Group Art Unit: 2141
)
Application No.: 10/790,865) Examiner: Unknown
)
Filed: March 3, 2004) Confirmation No.: 3121
)
For: INFORMATION APPARATUS AND)
MAIL CONTROL METHOD)

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(b)

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.56 and 1.97(b), Applicants bring to the attention of the Examiner the documents on the attached listing. To the knowledge of the undersigned, this Information Disclosure Statement is being filed before the mailing date of a first Office Action on the merits for the above-referenced application.

Applicants attach copies of the listed documents. A copy of the listed U.S. patent document is not included. Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner consider the listed documents and indicate that they were considered by making appropriate notations on the attached form.

The documents listed in this Information Disclosure Statement were first cited in the attached Office Action from the Japanese Patent Office in a corresponding Japanese Patent Application, and this Information Disclosure Statement is being filed

within three months of the mailing date of the Japanese Patent Office Action. A copy of the Japanese Patent Office Action is attached for the Examiner's convenience.

In lieu of a statement of relevance or translation of the non-English documents, an English language version of the Japanese Patent Office Action is also attached. Applicants do not necessarily endorse the conclusion set forth in the Japanese Patent Office Action.

This submission does not represent that a search has been made or that no better art exists and does not constitute an admission that each or all of the listed documents are material or constitute "prior art." If the Examiner applies any of the documents as prior art against any claim in the application and Applicants determine that the cited documents do not constitute "prior art" under United States law, Applicants reserve the right to present to the office the relevant facts and law regarding the appropriate status of such documents.

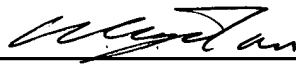
Applicants further reserve the right to take appropriate action to establish the patentability of the disclosed invention over the listed documents, should one or more of the documents be applied against the claims of the present application.

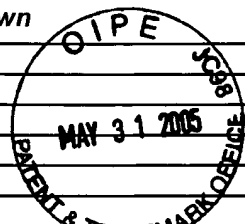
If there is any fee due in connection with the filing of this Statement, please charge the fee to our Deposit Account No. 06-0916.

Respectfully submitted,

FINNEGAN, HENDERSON, FARABOW,
GARRETT & DUNNER, L.L.P.

Dated: May 31, 2005

By: 
Wenye Tan
Reg. No. 55,662

IDS Form PTO/SB/08: Substitute for form 1449A/PTO <h2 style="text-align: center;">INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT</h2> <p style="text-align: center;">(Use as many sheets as necessary)</p>				Complete if Known	
		Application Number	10/790,865		
		Filing Date	March 3, 2004		
		First Named Inventor	Hiroyuki OKA		
		Art Unit	2141		
		Examiner Name	Unknown		
		Attorney Docket Number	04329.3256		
Sheet	1	of	1		

U.S. PATENTS AND PUBLISHED U.S. PATENT APPLICATIONS					
Examiner Initials	Cite No. ¹	Document Number	Issue or Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
		Number-Kind Code ² (if known)			
		US-2002/0147988 A1	10-10-2002	Nakano	
		US-			
		US-			
		US-			
		US-			
		US-			
		US-			
		US-			
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Note: Submission of copies of U.S. Patents and published U.S. Patent Applications is not required.

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS						
Examiner Initials	Cite No. ¹	Foreign Patent Document	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear	Translation ⁶
		Country Code ³ Number ⁴ Kind Code ⁵ (if known)				
		JP-2002-288084	10-04-2002			
		JP-2001-101095	04-13-2001			
		JP-2001-358966	12-26-2001			

NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS			
Examiner Initials	Cite No. ¹	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published.	Translation ⁶
		Notification of Reasons for Rejection from Japanese Patent Office mailed April 19, 2005, in Japanese Patent Application No. 2003-058863	Yes

Examiner Signature	Date Considered	
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EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.